Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 24313 170726Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05
EB-08 NSC-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-05 OMB-01 CEA-01
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 PRS-01 IO-13 AGRE-00 /104 W
----------057441 170734Z /13
R 170452Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8349
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8349
UMJDH/AMCONSUL HONG KONG 1235
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL UDORN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 24313

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD LA TH
SUBJECT: THAI-LAO TRADE

REF: BANGKOK 23662, BANGKOK 18580

1. FOLLOWING UP THE CONVERSATION REPORTED IN REF A, EMBOFF ON OCTOBER 14 DISCUSSED THAI RESTRICTION ON GOODS TO LAOS WITH KAMTORN CHITKONGTHAI, WHO IS MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REPRESENTATIVE ON SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO REVIEW EXPORTS TO LAOS.

2. KAMTORN REITERATED THE THAI BASIC POLICY OF SEEKING PEACEFUL AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH LAOS (REF B), BUT THIS POLICY OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS COULD NOT BE A ONE-WAY STREET. THAILAND HAS TO CONSIDER
THE THREAT TO ITS SECURITY POSED BY THE VIETNAMESE PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE IN LAOS. KAMTORN SAID THAT THE MFA WOULD WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH LAO REPRESENTATIVES IN BANGKOK BUT THE LAO HAD SHOWN NO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 24313 170726Z

INCLINATION TO TALK, PREFERRING TO USE PRESSURE FROM INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND THIRD COUNTRIES. AS LONG AS THE LAO TAKE THIS APPROACH, THERE WILL BE PROBLEMS.

3. KAMTORN CONFIRMED THAT THE COMMITTEE HAD LIFTED RESTRICTIONS ON SHIPMENT OF FUEL TO LAOS ON OCTOBER 11. HE ALSO CONFIRMED THAT MONTHLY CEILINGS WILL BE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

ESTABLISHED ON FUEL AS WELL AS ON OTHER SELECTED COMMODI-
TIES BASED ON PAST SHIPMENTS WITH SOME ALLOWANCE FOR
GROWTH OF DEMAND. THIS WAS DESIGNED TO TRY TO HOLD
SHIPMENTS TO A LEVEL NEEDED BY THE LAO INTERNAL
ECONOMY, NOT BY THE VIETNAMESE ARMY.

4. KAMTORN CONFIDED THAT THE COMMITTEE IS OVERLOADED
WITH MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES WHO ARE IGNORANT OF INTER-
NATIONAL POLITIIS AND TEND TOWARD WANTING TO STOP
ANYTHING FROM GOING TO LAOS. THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF

FOREIGN TRADE NORMALLY HEAD OF THE COMMITTEE, IS, ACCORDING
TO KAMTORN, INEFFECTUAL. KAMTORN THEREFORE FEELS HIMSELF
SEVERELY OUTGUNNED AT MEETINGS. HE INTENDS TO RECOMMEND TO
FOREIGN MINISTER UPPADIT, JUST BACK FROM AN OVERSEAS TRIP,
THAT HE SUBMIT A PROPOSAL TO THE CABINET TO UPGRADE THE CHAIRMAN-
SHIP OF THE COMMITTEE TO THE UNDER-SECRETARY LEVEL AND MOVE
IT TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGKO24313
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770380-0766
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771054/aaaabtrk.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 086a422e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BANGKOK 23662, 77 BANGKOK 18580
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 898361
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THAI-LAO TRADE
TAGS: ETRD, LA, TH, (KAMTORN CHITKONGTHAI)
To: VIENTIANE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/086a422e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009